SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

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FOR THE PEOPLE'S POWER!

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LONG LIVE THE MILITANT SOLIDARITY OF WORLD WOMEN!

THE US MUST STOP ITS WAR OF AGGRESSION, WITHDRAW ALL US AND SATELLITE TROOPS FROM

TO the great regret of the delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL, nearly one month has elapsed since the Paris Conference on Viet Nam began. But no progress whatsoever has been made in the search for a just political settlement of the South Viet Nam problem on the basis of the respect for the South Viet Nam people's sacred national rights.

At the last meeting, the US delegates once again refused to give straightforward answers to the questions put to them by the delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL. They have persisted in their efforts to justify the presence of over 600,000 US expeditionary and satellite troops who have day and night been trampling under foot South Viet Nam and massacring our compatriots there, they have continued to embellish the US-paid Saigon administration, a dictatorial, warlike and corrupted administration that the entire South Viet Nam people hate and are resolved to overthrow and that is denounced by broad public opinion throughout the world.

The US delegates have also tried by all possible means to deny the fact that the US is pursuing a neocolonialist policy in South Viet Nam, pretending that this is a "baseless accusation" against it. But they have failed to provide any proof of the contrary and can but repeat absurd arguments that historical facts in South Viet Nam and broad public opinion in the world have long since rejected, the delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL, relying on irrefutable facts and evidence, has also rejected these arguments of the US delegates.

It is a plain fact that the US acts of aggression in South Viet Nam are no way different from the acts of the German and Italian fascists and of the Japanese militarists who in the past invaded other countries, perpetrating untold crimes that have been and will for ever be condemned by history. As to the Saigon administration set up by the US, it is in no way different from these puppet administrations which were set up as lackeys by the German, Italian and Japanese fascists in a number of countries. If there be any difference, it rests in the fact that the US has by far surpassed the above-said war criminals in the perfidy, brazenness and cruelty of its crimes.

Everybody knows that the Saigon administration which the US delegates label as "legal", "constitutional" and "de facto" is but a US product rigged up, nurtured and directed by the US itself. On the so-called "Republic of Viet Nam" as early as 1957, Mr. David Hofham, an American journalist, wrote in the "New Republic": "How can a country be independent when it is totally financed by a foreign power? The very idea is absurd. How can a country be independent when 80 per cent of its imports are financed by the US treasury? Leaving a great deal to become an independent country, today South Viet Nam is one of the most dependent countries in the world".

Again on the so-called "Republic of Viet Nam" which the US delegates have praised up to the skies, a Saigon paper dated September 1st, 1968, wrote:

"It is a real economic tragedy when one can rely on nothing else but foreign aids to get one's daily bowful of rice. Since our economy is hankering after US dollars, so do our policies and politicians".

The US has rigged up the Saigon administration, yet it claims that the latter has invited it to send over half a million US troops into South Viet Nam, which is tantamount to saying that the US has invited itself into South Viet Nam. These trappings of "legality" are in fact too thin and have long since been torn to pieces, so that a US political personality, questioned by a journalist about the "legality" of the US acts in South Viet Nam, overtly stated that to his mind, "the legal aspect of problem was of little importance".

Nobody can for the sake of the US justify the presence of over half a million US troops in South Viet Nam. In a statement published in a *New York Times* issue dated January 15, 1967 many eminent American lawyers were led to conclude that:

1. The unilateral intervention of the US in Viet Nam is a violation of the US charter.

2. The presence of US troops in Viet Nam is a violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements.

3. The intensity and destructiveness of the US war in Viet Nam are against international law.

4. The US acts in Viet Nam are a violation of the very constitution of the US.

The fact that the US delegates persist in justifying the US designs and acts of aggression against the South Viet Nam people while making fallacious statements about the "respect for the right to self-determination" of the latter can but all the more clearly reveal the perfidious, cruel and aggressive nature of the US. The so-called concrete proposals put forward by the US delegates during the previous sessions are aimed solely at camouflaging the US neo-colonialist policy of aggression in South Viet Nam, maintaining the present Saigon administration as an instrument and lackey of the US and perpetuating the partition of Viet Nam.

FOR their part, *the South Viet Nam people have been carrying out a just struggle for their most sacred national rights. This is the resistance war of an entire nation against foreign aggression, similar to those that were waged by the peoples in many countries of Europe and Asia against the German, Italian and Japanese fascist aggressors during World War Two. The patriotic struggle of the South Viet Nam people against US aggression is of the same character as that struggle waged in the past by the American people against the British colonialists for national independence. It is because of the just cause of the resistance war against US aggression, for national salvation, that the South Viet Nam NFL has succeeded in mobilizing the overwhelming majority of the South Viet Nam population to participate in that resistance, in developing all their moral and material strength and in enjoying the sympathy, support and assistance of progressive mankind. Therefore it has victoriously stood against the biggest and most cruel colonial war of aggression ever known in history.* In the hope of conquering small South Viet Nam whose territory is not larger than the state of Florida in the US, and whose population is approximately the same as that of the New York area, the US has engaged more than 600,000 US and satellite troops, thousands of aircraft, warships, spent more than one hundred billion dollars, used millions of tons of bombs and shells, spared no savage method of extermination, and resorted to everyone of the most up-to-date war means (except atomic weapons) and to every perfidious trick of demagogy and bribery.

...But, *undert he leadership of the South Viet Nam NFL, the South Viet Nam people who are fighting on their own soil for their sacred interests and their most earnest aspirations have won and are winning this cruel war of aggression. US violence could not break the determination of the South Viet Nam people in their fight to subjugate them. On the contrary, confounded as it was when confronted with the South Viet Nam people's unforeseen vigorous resistance, the US has met with failure. The South Viet Nam people fell very honoured by the fact that the people*

Buddhist girl students and women demonstrating against US aggression in Hue city.

Armed with both cross-bows and automatic weapons, women in the highland make a worthy contribution to the armed forces and people's victories.

UNCONDITIONALLY SOUTH VIET NAM*

of the world sympathize with and support their resistance war against US aggression for national salvation, and recognize the NFL as the authentic representative of the South Viet Nam people. Millions of people in the US also sympathize with the South Viet Nam people's patriotic struggle and support the just position of the South Viet Nam NFL. The US defeat in its war of aggression against South Viet Nam is obvious.

Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery has made the following remark:

"The Americans are not winning and they can't win on the battlefield. They have lost the damned war already... the whole of world opinion is against you on this issue. You are becoming a very unpopular nation, which I think is a tragedy" (New York Times, July 5, 1968).

The South Viet Nam people's victory is the victory of the just cause, of the policy and leadership correct in every way of the South Viet Nam NFL, and the victory of the bloc of the entire united Vietnamese people.

The US may deformer, distort the truth but never can it conceal its failure. It is precisely due to this failure that the US was forced to unconditionally stop bombing the whole territory of the DRVN and accept to sit at the conference - table with the genuine representatives of the militant and victorious South Viet Nam people, i. e. the South Viet Nam NFL. But the US has thus far not wanted either to draw the necessary lessons of its erroneous policy and its failure in South Viet Nam or to put an end to its aggression or to accept a political solution conforming to the South Viet Nam people's national rights, the American people's legitimate interests and the urgent demand of justice-loving world opinion.

IN South Viet Nam, the US is unceasingly intensifying its war of aggression with unprecedented atrocity. Recently, the South Viet Nam people have not been able to enjoy peacefully their Tet festival. The US and the Thieu-Ky-Huong administration continually violated the seven-day order of suspension of military attacks promulgated by the South Viet Nam NFL so as to enable the population and the puppet soldiers, officers, and officials to enjoy Tet in their family.

US planes, including B-52 strategic bombers, showered thousands of tons of bombs and indiscriminately attacked many regions in Xuan Loc (Long Khanh province), An Loc (Binh Long province), Ben Cau (Tay Ninh province), Cao Lanh and My An (Kien Phong), etc...

US and puppet troops launched sweep operations in many regions belonging to the provinces of Phuoc Long, Binh Duong, Binh Long, Bac Lieu Khanh Hoa, Da Nang, Thua Thien, Hau Nghia, Ban Me Thuot, etc. in Saigon and many other cities, US and puppet troops repeatedly and indiscriminately carried out abduction and arrests.

To protect the population during the Tet festival and correctly implementing the concrete provisions clearly stipulated in the order of suspension of military attacks promulgated by the Command of Liberation People's Armed Forces, the South *Viet Nam* Armed forces and people have duly punished the aggressors in many places.

On the very eve of Tet, Nguyen Van Thieu furiously declared that "any citizen who acts at communist instigation must be liquidated....." (AFP 14-2-1969). It is common knowledge that the US and the Saigon administration have labelled "Communist" anybody who, regardless of age, sex, political tendency or religious belief, does not side with them or who desires peace, independence and neutrality for South Viet Nam. These warlike statements made by the Saigon administration prove on the one hand their nature as traitors and US quislings, and on the other, show how great their fear of peace and their hatred of the people are. This also indicates that this administration is completely isolated and that the only way it can protract its life as traitor is by opposing the population by means of bayonets and guns and shielding itself behind the *US* expeditionary corps. It is precisely because the Thieu-Ky-Huong administration continues to serve as US agents to prolong the war of aggression, terrorise and repress the people and hinder any progress of the Paris conference on *Viet Nam* that the population in the temporarily occupied cities in South *Viet Nam* hate this war administration and are struggling to overthrow it and to replace it by a peace cabinet which will hold serious discussions in the four-party conference in Paris, in order to put an end to the US war of aggression and bring about peace, independence and neutrality to South *Viet Nam*. This is a most legitimate, just and reasonable demand which is in conformity with the real situation in South *Viet Nam* and which enjoys the support of the National Front for Liberation and that of the entire population in South Viet Nam as well as progressive public opinion in all countries.

THE US is the aggressor in South Viet Nam, the Saigon administration is an agent and a tool of the US. The US war of aggression and neo-colonialist policy are the sources of all the sufferings of the South Viet Nam people. To give a correct solution to the situation in South Viet Nam, and to put an end to the sufferings of the South Viet Nam people, it is imperative to liquidate these sources. The five-point stand of the South Viet Nam NFL paves the correct way to this goal. The fundamental spirit of this stand is that: On the basis of the respect for the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, and on that of the recognition of the South Viet Nam people's rights to independence, democracy, peace, neutrality and prosperity and the advance to the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland, the US must stop its war of aggression, unconditionally withdraw all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, dismantle all US military bases there, and let the South Viet Nam people settle themselves their own affairs in accordance with the Political Program of the South Viet Nam NFL without foreign interference.

This is a complete position which aims at solving the South Viet Nam problem in all its aspects. To pretend to solve the South Viet Nam problem while ignoring the sacred rights of the South Viet Nam people is merely to speak empty words. These rights can only be secured when the US unconditionally withdraws all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam.

The US has impudently invaded South Viet Nam, set up the Saigon administration to serve as its instrument, trampled, sabotaged the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, and flouted the legitimate demands of the peace - and justice - loving peoples the world over. The US is just like a gang of bandits who break into the house of the South Viet Nam people and attempt to occupy it by force. The South Viet Nam people, the owners of this house, have resolutely resisted and have defeated the bandits. The US, therefore, must completely and unconditionally get out of the house of the South Viet Nam people. This is the logical conclusion one comes to. This demand of the South Viet Nam people is fully just and reasonable, it conforms to the reality, to the right to self-determination of all nations, to the spirit and letter of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam, and to the desire of the American people and of peace- and justice-loving peoples throughout the world. The US often claims that it seeks an honourable peace, but its real honour lies in its accepting to give up its erroneous and bankrupt policy, and to end the barbarous and unjust war of aggression which is so costly in human lives and in money and is being opposed by the American people and condemned by the whole of mankind.

For their part, the South Viet Nam people and the South Viet Nam NFL earnestly desire an early restoration of peace in South Viet Nam — a peace in independence and freedom.

For the cause of the liberation of South Viet Nam, for peace and independence, the South Viet Nam people will not cease fighting so long as the US continues its aggression against South Viet Nam, and the Saigon administration continues to serve as lackeys of the US.

These warlike circles in the US which still cherish the hope of winning by force of arms or by using pressure against the South Viet Nam people are but dreaming empty dreams. The more it prolongs its unjust war of aggression and clings to the Saigon administration, the more the US will sustain unexpected and still heavier blows from the South Viet Nam armed forces and people, and the more it will have to face severe criticisms and strong opposition from the world people, including American people. So far, the US deeds in South Viet Nam have always been in utter contradiction with its words. The more the US proclaims its desire to establish peace, the more it intensifies its war of aggression. It is now time for the US to prove by deeds its words of peace, i.e. end its war of aggression in South Viet Nam, completely and unconditionally withdraw US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, and respect the South Viet Nam people's rights to independence, democracy, peace, neutrality, prosperity, and the advance toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland."

* *Statement by Mr. Tran Buu Kiem, Head of the Delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL at the fifth plenary session of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam (February 20, 1969).*

Photo (above)

The Saigon students writing «US go home»: slogans shouted by the people everywhere in South Viet Nam towns and cities.

At the sixth plenary session of Paris Conference on February 27

Mr Tran Buu Kiem declared :

"The Nixon administration must put an end to the war of aggression in Viet Nam..."

IN his speech at the sixth plenary session of Paris Conference, Tran Buu Kiem, Head of the NFL delegation, condemned the obduracy of the US at the conference, and denounced the savage crimes the US-puppets are piling up in South Viet Nam.

He said that for more than a month at the conference, the US had made one cunning argument after another, with the aim of describing the US aggressors as "victims of aggression", and the ring-leaders of the Saigon puppet administration who are betraying the country and harming the people as "patriots". The US delegate has not accepted to talk seriously with the delegate of the NFL—the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people and an authority on questions concerning South Viet Nam, he pointed out.

He criticized the Nixon administration for its erroneous policy of following the path of Johnson, for being even more obdurate in the intensification of the aggressive war against the South Vietnamese people, and for stubbornly sticking to the neo-colonialist policy regarding South Viet Nam, labouring under the illusion of finding a strong position both on the battlefield and at the conference table.

Tran Buu Kiem recalled that since Nixon took his office on January 20, 1969, air raids and ground operations by the US-puppets in South Viet Nam had greatly been stepped up. During a recent 12-day period, he said, US B.52 strategic bombers dumped on areas around Saigon 17,000 tons of bombs — a record hitherto for such a short period of time and such a small region. Most recently, he continued, the US has introduced into South Viet Nam thousands of Thailand troops to be used as cannon-fodder, while strengthening the Saigon puppet army in equipment and numbers. What is more, the US and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique of henchmen are resorting to fascist measures to oppose the growing movement of people in Saigon and other urban centres of South Viet Nam for the withdrawal of US troops, the overthrow of the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique, the establishment of a peace cabinet, and serious talks with the NFL.

Tran Buu Kiem pointed out: "As the US is making an aggression against South Viet Nam, the 14 million South Vietnamese people have risen up under the leadership of the NFL to resist the US aggression and to save their country and their homes. The 14 million South Vietnamese people are determined not to fold their arms in the face of the more and more ruthless aggression by the US".

The South Vietnamese people have shown their resolve to resist US aggression all through the past years and in the attacks now taking place in all parts of South Viet Nam, Tran Buu Kiem continued, adding that these severe punishing blows have exploded all the boasts of the US-puppet about the "allied forces having the initiative" and about the "Viet Cong running out of steam."

Under the leadership of the NFL, Tran Buu Kiem stressed, the South Vietnamese people have defeated the "special war" of the US and are defeating its "local war" conducted by more than one million US - puppet - satellite troops, The South Vietnamese people will certainly defeat the whole policy of aggression of the US, he declared.

The Head of the NFL delegation said:

"There is only one honourable way but for the US: the Nixon administration must put an end to the war aggression in Viet Nam, withdraw unconditionally all US and satellite troops from South Viet Nam, give up the intention to keep a puppet administration particularly the bellicose Thieu-Ky-Huong administration at present as an instrument for the realization of US neo - colonialism, and let the South Vietnamese people settle themselves their own affairs according to the NFL's Political Program, without foreign interference.

The basis for the settlement of the South Viet Nam issue is the 5-point statement of November 3, 1968 of the NFL, which we have many times carefully explained at this conference. The NFL is the unifier, organizer and leader of the South Vietnamese people in the struggle against US aggression and for national salvation, the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people fully competent in solving any question concerning South Viet Nam. If the US really wants to settle the South Viet Nam issue, it must recognize the Front and talk seriously with it.

NFL delegation visits North Viet Nam

On February 26 the Presidium of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation has issued the following communiqué :

"At the invitation of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee has appointed a delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL led by Dr **Phung Van Cung**, Vice-President of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, President of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee and President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Red Cross, to visit North Viet Nam in the near future.

The delegation comprises the following members :

— Superior **Thich Thien Hao,**
Representative of the South Viet Nam Patriotic Buddhists,
Member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee,

Chairman of the Committee to Denounce War Crimes committed by the US Imperialists and their henchmen in South Viet Nam,
Vice-Chairman of the South Viet Nam Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

— Mr. **Nguyen Van Ngoi,** Chief Priest of the Tien Thien sect of the Cao Dai religion,
Member of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee,
Chairman of the sick and wounded PLAF armymen's Council.

— Joseph Marie **Ho Hue Ba,** Catechist,
Representative of the South Viet Nam devout and patriotic Catholics,
Member of the NFL Central Committee,
Member of the South Viet Nam Peace Committee.

Mme **Mi Doan,**
Vice-President of the Movement for the Autonomy of the High Plateaux People,
Vice-President of the South Viet Nam Liberation Women's Union,
Member of the High Plateaux NFL Committee.

— Mme **Nguyen Thi Rao,**
Member of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam Liberation Women's Union,
Member of the Standing Committee of the Liberation Women's Union in Saigon — Cholon — Gia Dinh.

— Miss **Kan Lich,** of the Pa Co nationality, Phong Dien district, Thua Thien province,
Heroine of the South Viet Nam PLAF.

— **Dang Van Dau,** of Thu Dau Mot province, Nam Bo (South Viet Nam proper-Ed.),
Hero of the South Viet Nam **PLAF.**

— **Huynh Thuc Ba,** of Quang Nam province, Central Trung Bo (Central Viet Nam-Ed.),
Hero of the South Viet Nam PLAF.

— Mme **Truong Thi Chuoc,** member of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Women's Union in Central Trung Bo,
Model Fighter of Central Trung Bo.

— Mme **Nguyen Thi Huong,** Head of the Leading Committee for Uprising in Dong Ba precinct, Hue city.

— **Phan Van Gung,**
"Valiant destroyer of Yanks" and "Determined to Win Fighter" of Saigon — Cho Lon — Gia Dinh area."

Photo (above)

The NFL Delegation before the International Centre of Conferences in Paris.

Military Notebook

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Early February 1969

The PLAF on offensive on all fronts

- SAIGON : Many US-puppet positions under fire.
- TAY NGUYEN HIGHLANDS : Uprisings of mountain people.

WHEN the Têt truce ended, the PLAF launched offensives over the length and breadth of South Viet Nam, starting on the night of December 22-23, 1969. According to preliminary reports, they mounted assaults on about a hundred enemy bases inside and on the outskirts of the cities, including Saigon, Huê and Da Nang.

In *Saigon*, in spite of formidable defences reinforced by B.52 raids, the HQ of the puppet Marines and Navy as many fortified positions in the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 9th districts and along Le Loi, Nguyen Huê, Thu Khoa Huân, Le Thanh Ton and other streets were fiercely attacked.

In *Eastern Nam Bo*, more than 20 bases and camps were dealt severe blows. In Tay Ninh province, the Loc Ninh garrison and an important camp of the 1st brigade of the US First Air Cavalry Division suffered heavy damage. In Thu Dau Mot province, the same fate befell the Dan Tieng base defended by the 3rd brigade of the US 25th Infantry Division. First Air Cav - units sent to its rescue were cut to pieces. At the same time, PLAF artillery pounded US-puppet bases at Trang Lon, Can Lê, Soc Con Trang, Ba Chiem, Tram Vang, Ben Cui, Ben Keo, the Special Forces camp at Ca Tum, etc., inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. In Bien Hoa province, beside the Long Binh airfield and logistic base, the camp of the 7th battalion of puppet paratroops was attacked. In Phuoc Long province, after capturing the provincial capital, the PLAF held control over the administrative apparatus and other services. The population, rising up, dismantled many "strategic hamlets", meted out due punishment to blood-thirsty enemy agents, and broke up the puppet repressive machinery.

In *Central Nam Bo*, attacks were launched on the HQ of the US 9th Infantry Division, and the 10th and 12th regiments of the puppet 7th I.D as well as on almost all military sectors and sub-sectors along strategic highways and more than one hundred posts and blockhouses in various district centres in My Tho, Ben Tre, Can Tho, Long An, Kien Phong, An Giang and other provinces. Everywhere, the people rose up, combining their action with that of the PLAF.

In *Southern Trung Bo*, our forces violently attacked Tan Long, north of Phan Thiet, and the Phan Rang airfield.

In *Central Trung Bo*, the PLAF launched assaults on about a hundred US bases and strong points, from Da Nang to Cam Ranh, from the Tay Nguyen Highlands to the coast. Among the targets attacked were eight important cities and provincial capitals: Da Nang, Hoi An, Tam Ky, Quang Ngai, Qui Nhon, Kon Tum, Gia Rai, Ban Me Thuot; 19 district centres or military sub-sectors: Hoa Vang, Dien Ban, Dai Loc, Duy Xuyen, An Hoa, Thuong Tuc, Que Son, Ly Tin, Tien Phuoc (Quang Ngai province), Binh Son, Son Tinh, Nghia Hanh, Mo Duc, Duc Pho (Quang Ngai province), Tam Quan, Bong Son, Phu My, Hoai An (Binh Dinh province); Lac Thien (Gia Lai province); four military airfields: Da Nang, Quang Ngai, Area, Ban Me Thuot; 6 supply dumps and storehouses: Da Nang, An Hai, Chu Lai (Quang Nam) province), Deo Son (Binh Dinh province), Cam Ranh (Khanh Hoa province) and Pleiku.

No important US base was spared. In Chu Lai in particular, the HQ of the US "Americal" division, its signal service, the camp of the 3rd mobile group of the 4th puppet armoured regiment were vigorously pounded by PLAF artillery. The enemy suffered heavy casualties and damage. In Pleiku, the HQ of the 2nd Army Corps and of the 2nd puppet rangers battalion came under attack, and so did the HQ of the 45th puppet infantry regiment and the training centre of the 23rd puppet infantry division in Ban Me Thuot.

In Tri-Thien-Huê, PLAF artillery caused heavy losses to the enemy in Huê and neighbouring areas.

WITHIN a single night, the PLAF produced the evidence that the initiative was firmly in their hands and that their combativeness had not diminished in the least. Their posture of strength and victory was all the more brought out into relief as the US and puppet forces were in an irremediable position of weakness and passivity.

At the same time, the assertions that the "Saigon army is stronger than it was before", that "the Vietcong is exhausted", that "measures have been taken to prevent any Vietcong offensive", collapsed, like the innumerable nonsenses proclaimed by american strategists on the imaginary progress of "accelerated pacification" and the illusory success of the "clear and hold" strategy so dear to the Pentagon. General Cushman, commander of the Marines in the First Tactical Region, boasted just a few hours before the PLAF offensive: "The enemy has been mercilessly cut to pieces. We are strong enough to drive him into the mountains and to penetrate deep into his ricefields." His ranting stopped when the PLAF attacked, but the problem remained: How could the 500,000 and more GIs provide support for their puppets, whose morale had collapsed, when they themselves are incapable of defending their own positions?

It seems that US setbacks for this year have only begun. Flushed by their successes, strongly supported by popular uprisings, the PLAF will certainly deal over more powerful blows at the US aggressors and their valets to bring the Resistance to total victory.

LONG BINH

US-puppet "stable position" in South Viet Nam.

by I.T
(from the periodical "Giai Phong")

"Air-borne tactics": mere delusion of the US aggressors in South Viet Nam.

SOUTH VIETNAMESE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT DURING A YEAR OF GENERAL OFFENSIVE AND UPRISING

BIG AND STEADY STRIDES FORWARD

IN the South Vietnamese people's resistance to US aggression, for national salvation, women play the role of a momentous force in political and armed struggle and agitation among enemy troops, as well as in production, in cultural, educational and other works, and in the building of the liberated zone.

The image of South Vietnamese women opposing tanks and warships with no other weapons than their ardent patriotism and marvellous courage, or, hand in hand with their mates of the other sex, confronting the enemy on the battlefield, clothed in the traditional *bà ba* black suit, with a soft-brim hat, a pair of rubber sandals, a variegated shawl round the neck and a rifle slung over the shoulder, has become familiar to the people in all continents, whose admiration they have rightly earned.

The women of South Viet-Nam deserve the high award bestowed by the NFL Central Committee describing them as "Heroic, Undaunted, Faithful and Devoted".

In the general offensive and uprising beginning at Tet last year, women's guerilla and self-defence units repeatedly caught their opponent unawares and delivered them heavy blows. Women's armed forces established control over strategic highway No 4 for about ten days. They struck at the enemy's post network and military sub-sectors. In one province they staged insurrections with the help of an armed regiment-size unit, while an another 300,000 organized women and girls stood in wait for an order to attack the adversary at any time.

Most worthy of note was the exploit of the eleven girls of Hue who drove back a whole battalion after nearly a hundred fights inside and outside the city. Similary, a girl self-defence unit, one day after its formation, fiercely engaged the enemy in Saigon, at the Tan Son Nhut airfield, in Bay Hien Street, at the Y-shaped bridge area, etc.

During the said offensive and uprising, townfolk in Saigon, Bentre, Cantho and elsewhere told one another legend-like stories about the extraordinary heroism of women and girls such as Vo Thi Thang, Tam-with-a-carbine and mother Nam, now well-known throughout Viet Nam.

While taking part in combat, South Vietnamese women have proved very capable and clever in agitation. In some areas, by the hundreds they surrounded puppets in their garrisons and forced them to quit or surrender, or talked them into crossing over to the people's side. Few would figure out that an unarmed slender Khmer woman could lead her mates to coordinate their action with local guerillas and compel the adversary to abandon fifteen posts. In a day, "long-haired" fighters of Ben Tre province, through armed and political struggle combined with persuasion, achieved a similar success with thirty-six posts. On the other hand, women in all South Viet Nam have successfully undertaken educational work among 28,298 families of puppet troops and desintegrated or forced to surrender 15,041 officers and soldiers.

In Saigon, Hue, Danang and other large cities, thousands of all walks of life - working people, students, intellectuals, followers of varied religions, and refugees from the North stood up to expose and foil the enemy's scheme to make havoc of their towns, plunder the population and move them out of their houses into concentration zone. Since then, South Vietnamese women mounted one struggle after another in the occupied areas, demding the pull - out of American troops, the overthrow of Thieu-Ky-Huong and the formation of a cabinet that would mean peace to engage serious talks with the National Front for Liberation.

100,000 women, followers of the Cao Dai Church put up a fierce drive against savage massacres within its Holy See at Tay Ninh. The enemy had to make concessions. This struggle marked a new step forward in the South Vietnamese women's movement.

With the patriotic actions full of courage cited above, women play an important part in political struggle and guerilla warfare. This accounts for the hundred-fold growth of the "long - haired" armed forces during the general offensive and uprising as compared with any preceding period. They now possess a wide array of combat methods, fighting now single-handed and using sniping as a rule, now in team and surrounding the apponent, now dispersing, now concentrating, the "three-spear-head" principle being an overriding one. They fight with any weapon at their command from tin-can-mines, handgrenades, satchel explosives, rifles to submachineguns and mortars. Girl artillery units have now appeared in every battlefield.

The participation of women in the fighting has enhanced the "people's character" of our resistance, in the sense it has supplied ever more armed forces and, consequently, more combat capacity, and in view of the fact that through their own fighting, women enlarge their specific movement.

They form the main force in the rear areas where a huge amount of work of great consequence and urgency has to be satisfactorily tackled. Surmounting countless hardships, under bombs and bullets, they have discharged their responsibilities with splendid success during a year of general offensive and uprising.

In this span of time thousands of women's teams and women's units have emerged: standing service - workers' companies and battalions for round-the-clock transportation of arms, food and medical supplies from the liberated zone to all theatres of operations, including those adjoining enemy-occupied towns and cities. Hundreds of thousands of "soldiers' mothers", despite their age and braving bombing and shelling, went up to the battlefields to look after the wounded. In Western Nambo they husked and pounded 11,000 *gia* (20 kg each) of paddy for the feeding of Liberation troops and donated about ten million dongs.

Last year hundreds of women attended courses for the training of first-aid assistants, nurses, midwives and physicians in the liberated zone. Itinerant medical teams were set up everywhere. The 565 schools open to 110,656 pupils in Western Nambo were run mainly by woman-teachers.

In the wake of many waves of offensive and uprising, most of the liberated villages have established their people's revolutionary power. Women, who enjoy freedom and democratic rights, and are conscious of their responsibility, have taken an active part in standing election and choosing their representatives.

All People's Revolutionary Committees, it can be said, include women trusted by their compatriots.

Throughout the past eight years, the South Vietnamese women's movement, placed under the leadership of the NFL and the direct guidance of the Women's Liberation Union has made continuous and big strides forward. That is a revolutionary force possessing a steady position, tremendous capabilities and combativeness, which embraces all sections of women in the rural and urban areas of South Viet Nam.

With the coming of the new year and the general trend of their revolution, the women of South Viet Nam will bend their energies on bringing into play their ability and successes, on preserving the tradition of undauntedness handed down by their elders over the centuries, and on promoting the virtues common to all Vietnamese women so as, together with the entire people, to win still greater successes in contribution to the just cause of the resistance to US aggression, for national salvation.

LE THI HUONG

Vo Thi Thang, 23, a former Saigon school student, was captured by the US-puppets while engaged in revolutionary work. She was savagely tortured and was sentenced to 20 years' hard labour. Before the fascist tribunal of the Saigon puppet administration, she showed a heroic mettle.

Vo Thi Mo, a valiant anti-US aggression fighter of Cu Chi (Gia Dinh province).

IN OUR LIBERATED ZONES

Good early rice harvested in My Tho.

IN spite of savage US and puppet "sweeps", the population in My Tho province have just brought in early rice crop thanks to the whole - hearted help given by people's & revolutionary power at all levels.

In Cho Gao, Cai Be, and Cai Lay districts, the population had overcome many difficulties caused by the enemy, stuck to their land and reaped a good early rice crop. They are preparing for the cultivation of the main crop. In many areas, people also grew spring rice, thus having three crops a year. Tan Hoi village with its fields lying along Highway No 4 was repeatedly mopped-up by the enemy. One night, one of the hamlets was hit by 5,000 shells. However, Tan Hoi managed to keep its whole acreage under crop and harvested all its early rice.

Contribution of the Southern High Plateaux to the general offensive and uprising.

ON receiving the order of general offensive and uprising from the NFL Central Committee, well over a hundred medical cadres, doctors, assistant-doctors and nurses in the Southern High Plateaux organized themselves into many mobile medical teams to serve the fighters and service-workers at the front, as well as the people in the vicinity of provincial and district towns.

In the first eleven months of 1968 the Southern High Plateaux medical service used in combination Eastern and Western medicines to cure 14, 515 cases — many of them very serious — given over 30,000 injections to preserve to armymen and people of various nationalities from epidemics, checked a cholera epidemic from spreading out of Phuoc Long and Phuoc Binh, and timely treated about a thousand patients.

During the same time, the service managed to train 102 assistant - doctors, assistant-chemists and nurses, (among them 42 of the minority people) and 100 hygiene workers. It helped the localities in the region to build pharmaceutical bases and opened three extra-curriculum courses for the training of assistant doctors and nurses, and many first - aid courses for the local population.

The service also succeeded in building and strengthening a medical net-work embracing districts and villages.

In particular, the medical cadres paid attention to persuading people of the various nationalities to give up some taboos and carry out preventive hygiene.

Bringing into full play thriftiness and self-reliance, the Southern High Plateaux medical service tapped highland medicinal plants of which they made a large number of commonly used drugs.

REALITIES AND ILLUSIONS

ONE never escapes realities, and illusions, sooner or later, can only bring about harmful consequences to him who nurtures them.

It is generally admitted that the White House is far from rejoicing at the consequences of its vast illusions over US neo-colonialist policy in Viet Nam. The american imperialists thought they could, at a low price and without striking a blow, establish their domination in South Viet Nam by the agency of Ngo Dinh Diem as an ideal puppet. This led to the "special war" that they had to wage, it is true, mainly with cannon-fodder supplied by the puppets, but also with american dollars and the blood of so-called american advisers. Then, as one escalation rung followed another, the "special war" turned into the present, unquestionably american, large-scale "limited war" against both parts of Viet Nam, which has already caused the loss of some thousand US aircraft and pilots in the North, and the bogging of over half a million US crack troops in the South. Let us not speak of Vietnamese lives obliterated, and Viet Nam's material and other wealth destroyed by the US systematic genocidal war. Let us not speak either of american blood shed at an increasing rate. All these senseless sacrifices, intolerable for any human being, may not bring to bear on the heart of US rulers insensible to such realities. But other things, aftermath of the current war affect them to the utmost, primarily the gold drain which, seriously threatening the dollar and likely to aggravate social and racial disturbances in the US itself, has already menaced the safes of big business.

Those are realities which equally preoccupy US leaders, whether they are democrats or republicans.

There is no denying that some of their illusions have already faded, which fact has driven them into accepting the unconditional cessation of bombardments and other war acts against the RDVN, and sitting at the Paris Conference table to talk about the settlement of the war.

But one has also to observe that the American rulers greatest illusions have not yet made room for a correct appraisal of the realities. It is obvious, therefore, that the Washington bosses have not brushed aside their neo-colonialist dream and that they are stubbornly doing the impossible to maintain a puppet regime in South Viet Nam against its own will. This is understable in the sense that it is not surprising for us Vietnamese who, owing to the force of circumstances, do not harbour illusions about the nature of US imperialism.

It is not up to us to undertake anything whatsoever against the nature of US imperialism. We want however to affirm that no force in the world can possibly change a basic Vietnamese reality which has remained unalterable all through the several thousand years of our people's history. Reality which has found a vivid expression in the behaviour of Nguyen Trung Truc, a South Vietnamese patriot, at one of the darkest periods—the beginning of French colonization in this country. In front of the scaffold, Nguyen Trung Truc said, "So long as grass grows on Viet Nam's soil the Vietnamese continue rising up to drive out foreign aggressors."

"Nothing is more valuable than independence and freedom," "So long as there remains an aggressor on our land, we must go on fighting to wipe him out". These words of President Ho Chi Minh—Uncle Ho for the whole Vietnamese people—constitude the very expression of the will of all Vietnamese, and of the South Vietnamese in particular, who have been suffering US barbarous aggression—a thorn in their side—and from the betrayal Thieu-Ky-Huong. Like Ngo Dinh Diem before them, these traitors have been body and soul serving the criminal cause of the hated aggressor.

Our urban compatriots, and those who have been wore or less trained at western schools, call the puppet clique "Amerloc" (Amiricains locaux), thus adding to their hatred for the aggressor their contempt for Washington's creatures. More than ever, at this crucial phase of our victorious rush forward the patriotic bloc of the people is expanding to encompass all social strata, communities and individuals in South Viet Nam, regardless of their present or past ideological, political and religious leanings, in an effort to extract "the thorn in their side" and materialize their aspirations for independence, democracy, peace and neutrality.

On this point the people of South Viet Nam entertain no illusions. They have forged for themselves the capabilities required by the accomplishment of their lofty goal.

THANH LAM

US CRIMES IN THE VERY CENTRE OF SAIGON CITY

On the fourth anniversary of the Indochinese Peoples' Conference (March 1, 1965)

Militant solidarity—A warrant of victory

Four years ago-March 1, 1965 the Indochinese Peoples' Conference was convened in Phnom Penh on the initiative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of the Kingdom of Cambodia.This is a splendid expression of the militant solidarity between Vietnamese, Khmer and Lao peoples in their struggle against the common enemy, the American imperialists, and at the same time an important landmark in the development of the friendly relations between the three peoples for the defence of their respective national independence on the basis of unity, long-term cooperation and mutual respect.

Over the past several years, Washington frenziedly intensified its war of aggression against the Indochinese peoples. But thanks to their militant solidarity, the latter recorded unprecedented victories.

Under the NFL banner, the heroic armed forces and people of South Viet Nam inflicted repeated defeats upon more than 1,200,000 US, puppet and satellite troops equipped with modern war means, driving them further into a passive and defensive posture. With their last general offensive, in particular, they won tremendous and all-sided successes which turned the tables on the enemy. The emergence of the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces and other peace forces in South Viet Nam has aggravated the isolation of the Americans and the puppets.

In North Viet Nam, the armed forces and people downed over 2,200 US planes, wiped out and captured more 1,000 pilots, smashed to pieces the "supremacy of the US Air Force". These successes of the people in both North and South Viet Nam compelled the United States to sit at the Paris conference table, to stop completely and unconditionally the bombing and other acts of war against the DRVN, to agree to the presence of a delegation of the South Viet Nam NFL at the talks in order to find a political solution to the South Vietnamese problem.

In Cambodia, under the firm leadership of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State, the fraternal Khmer people frustrated all acts of provocation and sabotage by the American imperialists and their lackeys, thus safeguarding their national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The Lao people, united around the Lao patriotic Front led by Prince Souphanouvong, and animated by a staunch and persevering fighting spirit, have in the main foiled the US "special war". The downing of the 1,oooth US aircraft in the Lao air zone, the armed forces and people gives further evidence to the invincibility of people's war in this country.

In their struggle against US aggression, for national salvation, the people in both parts of Viet Nam are immensely proud and elated that the fraternal Khmer and Lao peoples always stand on their side.

The Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia has time and again expounded its unswerving position to lend thorough support to our people's just resistance. The statement of February 1, 1969 by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which reiterates their full backing to the just and legitimate stand of the NFL and the DRVN at the Paris Conference, and regards the reasonable proposals advanced by the authentic representatives of the entire Vietnamese people as the only ones conducive to an honourable settlement of the VietNam war,constitutes a striking token of the militant solidarity and the complete support of the Head of State, the Royal Government and the fraternal people of Cambodia for our people's national salvation cause.

In the past four years, the fraternal Lao people stood by our people like comrades-in arms, encouraging and warmly backing South Viet Nam's resistance for national salvation. An illustration of this unshakable solidarity is the heroic struggle of the fraternal Lao people against the US aggressors, the common enemy of the Indochinese peoples. Recently, in a message sent to President Nguyen Huu Tho in the FNL eighth founding anniversary, Prince Souphanouvong, President of the Lao Patriotic Front, asserted that the Lao people's stand was to regard the South Viet Nam FNL as the genuine representative of our fourteen million South Vietnamese, to resolutely back the four-point stand of the DRVN and the five-point stand of the NFL, and to consider them the only correct political measures to resolve the Viet Nam problem. This statement once again voices unswerving position of the Lao people to side with our people against the common enemy — the US imperialist aggressors.

On the fourth anniversary of the Indochinese Peoples' Conference, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people standing on the forefront of the struggle against US aggression and elated at the great successes recorded by their compatriots throughout the country as well as the Khmer and Lao peoples, wish to convey sincere and warm greetings of militant solidarity to the peoples of Cambodia and Laos, their close comrades-in-arms.

At present, though having sustained heavy defeats, the American imperialists stick to their aggressive design. They still thrash about before being completely defeated. They are stepping up aggression in South Viet Nam and Laos and intensifying provocation and sabotage against the independence and neutrality of the Kingdom of Cambodia. With their own experiences, the Vietnamese, Khmer and Lao peoples are determined to preserve and strengthen their solidarity and cooperation in the common struggle which is bound to win total victory over the US imperialists aggressors.

QUOC NAM

On the occasion of the International Women's Day

Noble Feelings and Valuable Support

IN the general development of the world people's front in support of the struggle waged by the Vietnamese people for national salvation, the world women's drive in protest of the US war of aggression, has also grown up under practical watchwords and multiple forms.

Women on all continents regard the South Vietnamese people's resistance to US aggression, as a most active part of the struggle against imperialism colonialism and neo-colonialism, for national independence, democracy, peace and social progress. Voicing the thoughts and feelings of women everywhere towards the South Vietnamese people, Mrs Cécile Hugel, Secretary General of the *FDIF* said at the World Women's Congress in Helsenki, November last year: "The war launched by the Americans in Viet Nam is an inhuman war of aggression which causes not only death and mourning to the Vietnamese people but also evils to progressive mankind. No wounder that in the past several years millions of women the world over have raised their voices for an end to the US war of aggression in Viet Nam. The world women's movement for solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people and Vietnamese women has shown utmost devotion. It will certainly be stepped up everywhere in the world to support the Vietnamese people in both North and South until complete victory".

Animated by such an appraisal of the situation and sentiment, women in all socialist, newly-independent and other countries consider the support for the Vietnamese people their internationalist duty. Weeks and days devoted to Viet Nam have been organized under practical watchwords and most attractive forms. Millions upon millions of women from all strata have participated in big meetings, demonstrations, collections of money, medicines, etc. and offered to go and fight with the Vietnamese people against the US aggressors.

The Australian Women's Federation and the Save Sons Committee in November 1968 started a succession of big meetings to protest the Government's sending of Australian youths as cannon-fodder to South Viet Nam. The Women's Unions of Paraguay, Argentina, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Denmark, France, Great Britain and many other countries meet to express their solidarity with Vietnamese women, in protest of the US aggressive war. In great Britain, by March 1968, 350 of them clad in mourning dresses went to the American Embassy in London to protest the US massacre of Vietnamese children and women. In the movement for support for the Vietnamese people against US aggression, countless noble examples full of internationalist spirit have been seen throughout the world: Mrs. Claire Culhare of Canada staged a ten-day hunger strike as a protest against the government's failing after the United States in the latter's aggressive war in Viet Nam; Mrs Ida Genri of Switzerland told her relatives before duying that her only last will was to dedicate her savings (3,000 francs) to the South Vietnamese; the Soviet writer Maia Casen has leant Vietnamese and translated books in this language into Russian and devoted the proceeds to the South Vietnamese; the Chinese worker Lüu Shüi Yun saved 500 yuan for the South Vietnamese to buy weapons with which to fight the Yankee invaders. Such moving acts are witnessed everywhere in Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Albania, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Bulgaria, Mongolia, Laos, Cambodia, Algeria, Yemen, Arab Republic, and many capitalist countries in the East as in the West.

Right in the United States women have courageously struggled to demand that the administration stop the war in Viet Nam. In coordination with the "Brigade Rankin" and the Anti-draft coffee Houses Organization, 1,300 school-girls in Massachusetts went on a hunger strike to protest US aggression in Viet Nam. The large demonstrations staged by american women in January and July 1968 have further isolated the US government.

Determined to back the just struggle of the South Vietnamese people, women around the world are stepping up material and moral assistance under varied and vivid forms: participation in the "A ship for Viet Nam" movement in the Soviet Union, German Democratic Republic, France etc, "A visit to Viet Nam" in Cuba, "A Campaign to collect 200 million Yens" in Japan, "A movement for one million Krona in Sweden, "A Viet Nam night" in Uruguay and so on.

Most moving is that fact that since the arrival of the South Viet Nam NFL delegation in Paris to attend the quadripartite Conference, from many parts of France, from Great Britain, Italy, Japan. Germany, Belgium, the United States, and other countries, women letters and messages reached the delegation to greet it and pledge support from women to the South Vietnamese people's just struggle until total victory. The world people's front to back Viet Nam, of which women constitute a big force and play an important part, is developing both in breadth and depth.

ON the occasion of the International Women's Day and the founding anniversary of the South Viet Nam Women's Liberation Union, South Vietnamese women sincerely thank their sisters in the North and the world over for their valuable backing. They are resolved to follow up their successes and secure total victory in order to realize in their own country, women's common aspirations, namely, to live in independence, freedom and genuine peace. Vietnamese women are confident that in the days ahead their sisters on all continents will raise their voices more strongly and give more practical support to the resistance of the South Vietnamese women and people as a whole until they have achieved complete victory.

ANH TUAN.

Australian women demonstrating against the US criminal war in South Viet Nam

Nixon trip protested in Europe

● R.Nixon arrived in Brussels on Feb. 23, beginning his visit—the first since he came President of the US— to five West European countries: Belgium, Great Britain, France, West Germany and Italy.

On Feb. 23, before Nixon's arrival in the Belgian capital, hundreds of youths demonstrated, carrying flags of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and the National Front for Liberation.

When Nixon's plane landed in the evening of Feb. 23, the demonstrators broke through the police guard into the Brussels airport. And as he appeared, they shouted: "Nixon go home", "Long live NFL".

● According to Reuter, in London about 300 demonstrators on February 24 evening tried to break through police lines and get into the hotel where Nixon was staying.

Shouting "Nixon go home", the protesters marched to the hotel from the American embassy a block away. They later went to the Claridges Hotel chanting "Yankees go home" and "Ho, Ho, Ho Chi Minh".

● US President Nixon was strongly protested by the West Berlin people, as soon as he arrived there.

Hundreds of students and other people, despite police repression, took to the streets shouting "US get out of Viet Nam!", "Assassins!" and protested against Nixon when his car moved into the centre of the city.

For its part, the National Committee of the German Communist Party (in West Germany) has issued a statement demanding that the West Chancellor Kiesinger and Foreign Minister Willy Brandt, during their talks with Nixon, urge the US President to stop the "dirty war" of the US imperialists against the Vietnamese people and accept the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation's proposals on the peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam question.

● In Rome, a huge demonstration against the US was held on the night of Feb. 27 near the US embassy by the Italian people when Nixon arrived in Italy.

About 7,000 students, in response to the call of the Communist Party, marched toward the Quirinal Palace, chanting "Nixon go home!"

Earlier, on the night of Feb. 26, at the Italian C.P.'s appeal, more than 7,000 Italian students staged a demonstration condemning Nixon, shouting "Nixon hangman!" and holding high hundreds of red flags with large portraits of President Ho Chi Minh and carrying placards condemning the Italian government as lackey of the Nixon administration.

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